

County Down

2012 half year business confidence report



headlines

- The first half of 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in County Down when compared to any previous first half year.
- The first half of 2012 was a record first half year for company registrations in County Down when compared to any half year in history.
- June 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in County Down when compared to any previous June.
- June 2012 saw a new record in company closures in County Down when compared to any previous June.
- April 2012 saw a new record in company closures in County Down when compared to any previous April.

contents

new company registrations

closed companies (dissolved)

net company growth

uk company share

director age

director gender

naming trends

sic data

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The first half of 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in County Down when compared to any previous first half year.

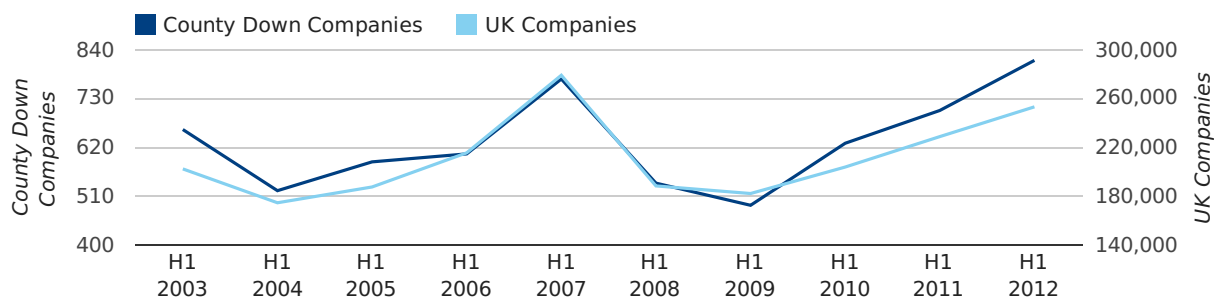
The first half of 2012 was a record first half year for company registrations in County Down when compared to any half year in history.

In the first half of 2012 a total of 816 companies were formed in County Down. This figure is 16.1% higher than last year, which compares well to the UK wide figure of 10.7%.

The highest total for a first half year in County Down occurred in 2012 when a total of 816 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	COUNTY DOWN	UK
2012	816	253,150
2011	703	228,735
% CHANGE	16.1%	10.7%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (816)	2007 (279,097)

new companies by half year



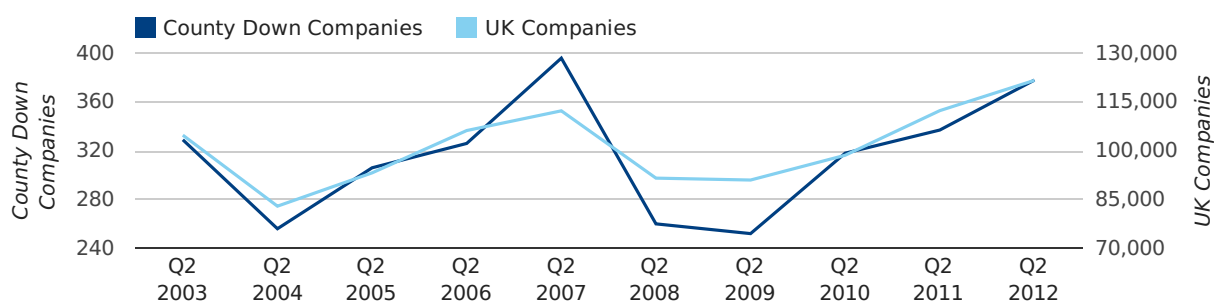
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

A total of 378 companies were registered in County Down during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is an increase of 12.2% versus the same period last year (Q2 2011). This figure compares equally to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 8.3% against the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	COUNTY DOWN	UK
2012	378	121,659
2011	337	112,344
% CHANGE	12.2%	8.3%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (396)	2012 (121,659)

new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

June 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in County Down when compared to any previous June.

new companies by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	119	134	125
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	96	126	115
% CHANGE	24.0%	6.3%	8.7%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (139)	2007 (143)	2012 (125)

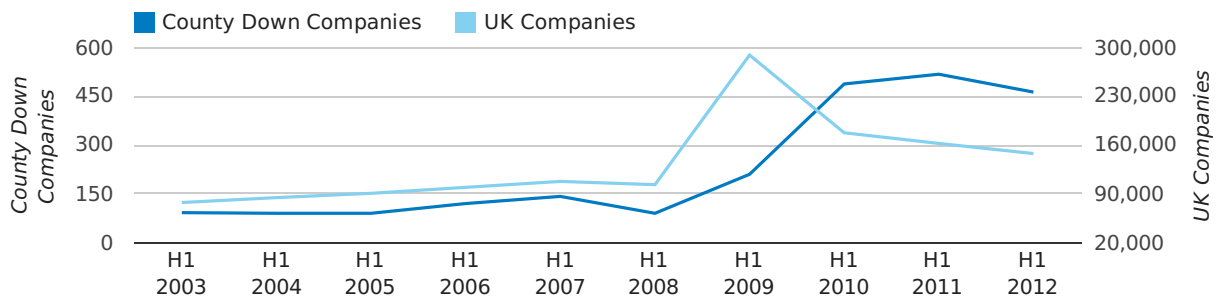
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 a total of 463 companies were dissolved in County Down. This figure is 10.6% lower than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -8.9%.

The highest total for a first half year in County Down occurred in 2011 when a total of 518 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	COUNTY DOWN	UK
2012	463	147,793
2011	518	162,310
% CHANGE	-10.6%	-8.9%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (518)	2009 (289,236)

dissolved companies by half year



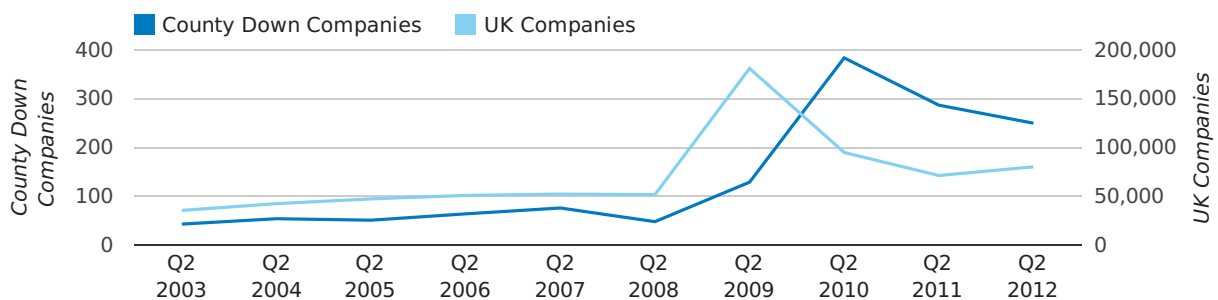
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

A total of 250 companies were dissolved in County Down during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is a decrease of 12.9% versus the same period last year (Q2 2011). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 12.5% against the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	COUNTY DOWN	UK
2012	250	80,217
2011	287	71,324
% CHANGE	-12.9%	12.5%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (384)	2009 (181,176)

dissolved companies by quarter

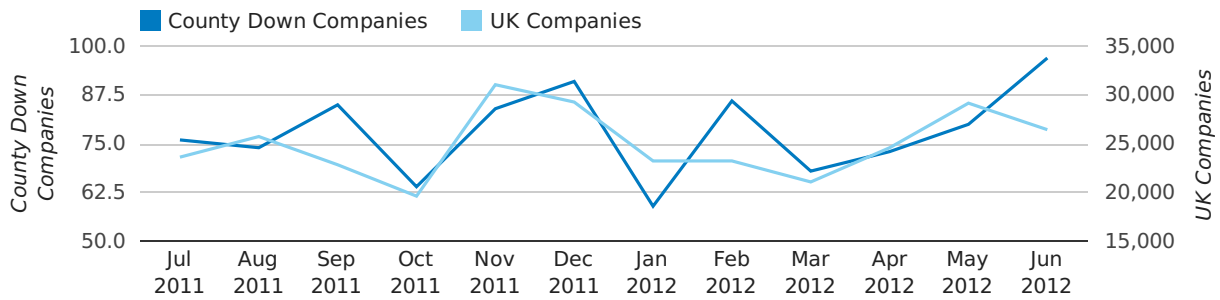


Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

June 2012 saw a new record in company closures in County Down when compared to any previous June.

April 2012 saw a new record in company closures in County Down when compared to any previous April.

dissolved companies by month



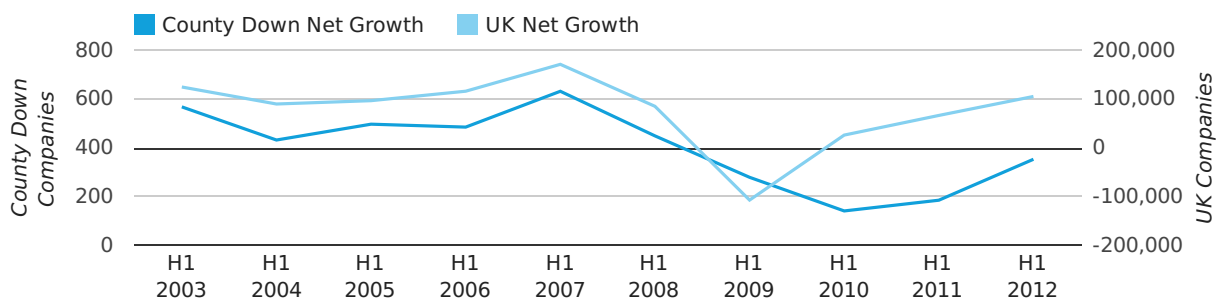
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	73	80	97
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	44	152	91
% CHANGE	65.9%	-47.4%	7%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (73)	2010 (247)	2012 (97)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 the company register for County Down increased by 353 companies. This figure is 90.8% higher than last year, which compares well to a UK increase of 58.6%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	COUNTY DOWN	UK
2012	353	105,357
2011	185	66,425
% CHANGE	90.8%	58.6%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (632)	2007 (171,296)

net growth by half year



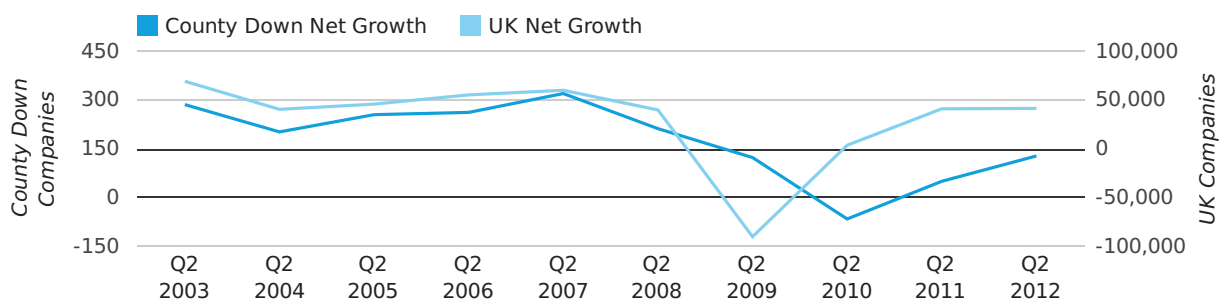
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

Net company growth for County Down during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012) was 128 companies.

This represents an increase of 156.0% on the same period last year.

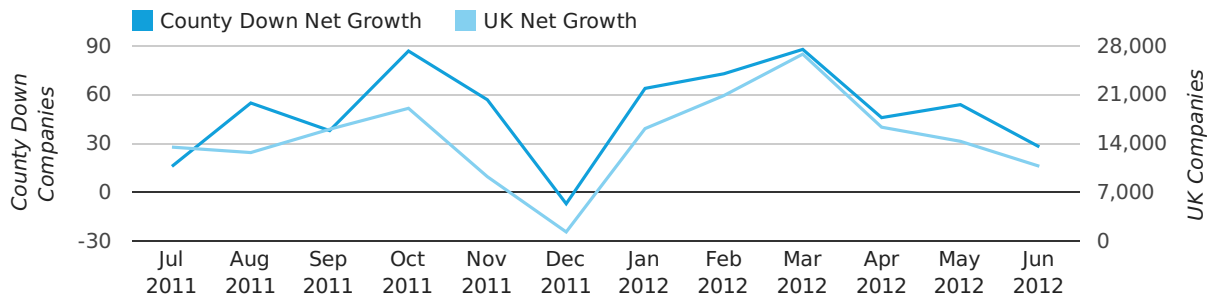
SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	COUNTY DOWN	UK
2012	128	41,442
2011	50	41,020
% CHANGE	156.0%	1.0%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (320)	2003 (69,274)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

net growth by month



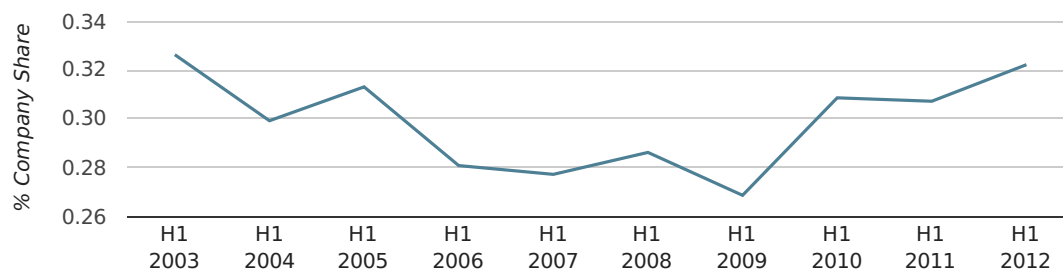
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NET GROWTH IN 2012	46	54	28
NET GROWTH IN 2011	52	-26	24
% CHANGE	-11.5%	-307.7%	16.7%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (117)	2007 (108)	2005 (104)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 County Down formed 0.3% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2011 figure of 0.3%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	COUNTY DOWN
2012	0.3%
2011	0.3%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.3%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1977 (0.7%)

company share by half year

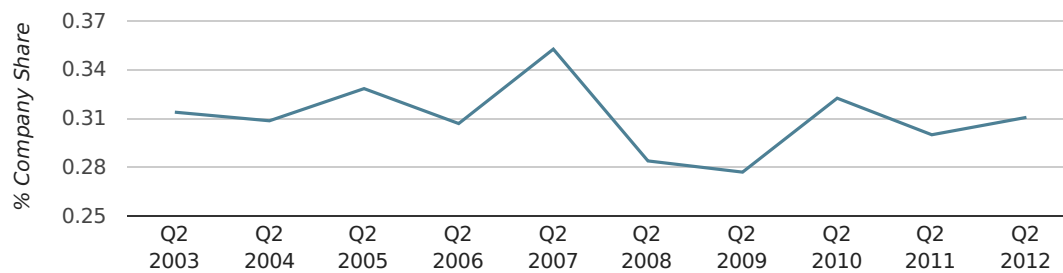


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

In the second quarter of 2012, County Down formed 0.3% of all UK companies.

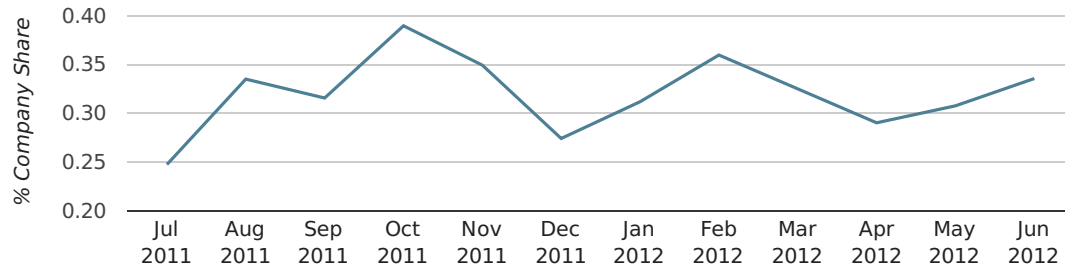
SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	COUNTY DOWN
2012	0.3%
2011	0.3%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.3%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1966 (0.7%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

company share by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
% CHANGE	4.4%	-6.8%	16.1%
RECORD YEAR	1979 (4.3%)	1965 (0.9%)	1975 (1.1%)

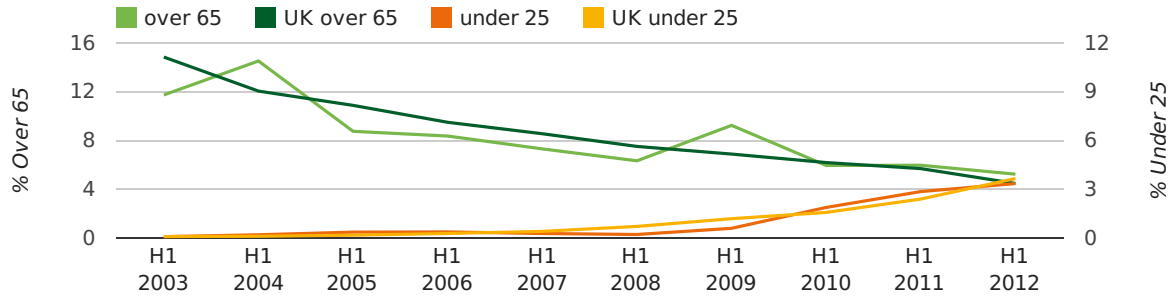
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the first half of 2012 was 43.6.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.4% compared to the UK figure of 4.9%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 5.3% compared to the UK figure of 3.4%.

director age by half year



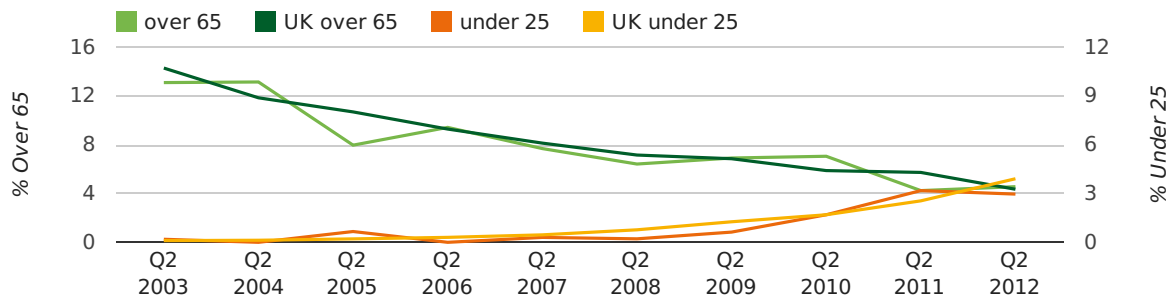
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the second quarter of 2012 was 43.6.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.0% compared to the UK figure of 5.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.6% compared to the UK figure of 3.3%.

director age by quarter

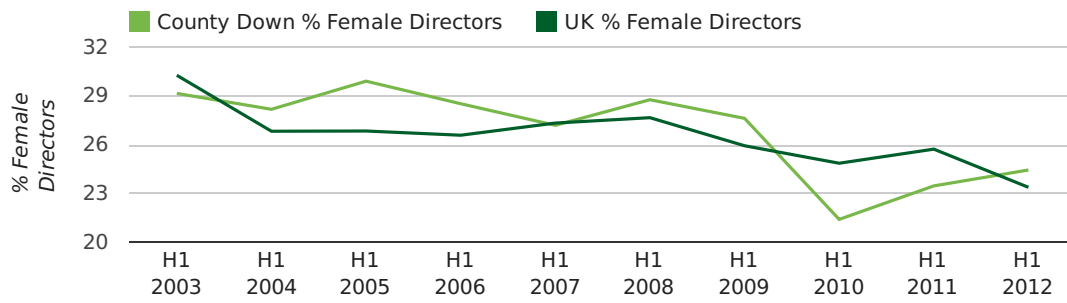


Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The record first half year for female directors in County Down was 1861 when 40.0% of all directors were female.

24.5% of all director appointments in County Down in the first half of 2012 were female. This compares to a UK average of 23.4% for the same period.

director gender by half year



Previous 12 months (Jun 2011-Jun 2012)

Excluding: LIMITED, LTD, &, UK, SERVICES, THE, (UK), AND, LTD., A, LLP, SOLUTIONS, COMPANY, OF.

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
(NI)	2.53%	CONSULTING	5.07%
MANAGEMENT	1.24%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
TRADING	1.16%	CONSULTANCY	3.28%
CONSTRUCTION	0.93%	PROPERTY	2.35%
DESIGN	0.93%	TRADING	2.10%
PROPERTIES	0.80%	DESIGN	1.89%
(N.I.)	0.80%	ENGINEERING	1.87%
CONTRACTS	0.76%	ASSOCIATES	1.82%
ENGINEERING	0.76%	CONSULTANTS	1.78%
ENTERPRISES	0.76%	CONSTRUCTION	1.71%
CONSULTANCY	0.71%	BUSINESS	1.70%
NI	0.71%	MEDIA	1.69%
CARE	0.67%	LONDON	1.68%
RETAIL	0.62%	J	1.57%
DEVELOPMENTS	0.62%	GLOBAL	1.51%
PROPERTY	0.62%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
COMMUNITY	0.58%	IT	1.42%
M	0.53%	CARE	1.31%
GREEN	0.53%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
ENERGY	0.53%	M	1.26%
LEISURE	0.53%	ELECTRICAL	1.23%
CLUB	0.49%	BUILDING	1.23%
C.I.C.	0.49%	SECURITY	1.19%
DIRECT	0.49%	S	1.18%
ELECTRICAL	0.49%	ENTERPRISES	1.17%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	565	244,457
7487 - Other business activities	101	47,029
99999 - Dormant Company	88	26,088
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	65	35,447
9999 - Dormant Company	56	16,469
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	40	20,390
41100 - Development of building projects	33	5,149
7414 - Business & management consultancy	29	10,978
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	26	10,271
9305 - Other service activities	26	7,926
68320 - Management of real estate on a fee or contract basis	25	3,365
49410 - Freight transport by road	23	2,912
74990 - Non-trading company	23	9,706
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	22	4,644
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	22	14,220
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	22	15,280
41202 - Construction of domestic buildings	21	3,185
5530 - Restaurants	21	4,037
62012 - Business and domestic software development	21	4,742
7499 - Non-trading company	20	8,023